

TAFT SURE WINNER,
PARTY LEADERS SAY

Reports from All Over the Country Indicate That the President's Strength Is Growing Rapidly.

SHERMAN SEES VICTORY

Good News Comes to White House from New York, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio and Connecticut—Wavering Congressmen in Line.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, Feb. 2.—There was no diminution of enthusiasm at the White House to-day, and everything confirms the confidence expressed yesterday by Secretary Hilles in Mr. Taft's renomination and election. Reports from all parts of the country indicate that the strength of the President is growing rapidly, and the statement made by Vice-President Sherman at the White House this morning added to the general enthusiasm. Politicians generally regard the announcement of Mr. Sherman's confidence in the President's success as of more than ordinary importance, because, as is well known, Mr. Sherman is extremely close to William Barnes, Jr., and therefore cannot be regarded as prejudiced in favor of Mr. Taft.

Of course, this morning's news from New York had its effect, and some members of Congress who have been disposed to waver hastened to the White House to-day to assure the President that they were for him. Inside reports from Missouri indicate that the delegation from that state will be for the President, with the possible exception of three districts in the northwest corner of the state, where Colonel Nelson, with the papers he represents, is making a frantic endeavor to secure delegates for Colonel Roosevelt.

The reversal of the St. Louis city committee caused no surprise, for, as was told in The Tribune at the time, it was realized that the former action of the committee was in no way indicative of the sentiment of the people of that city or of the state. Ex-Senator Hemenway, who called at the White House to-day, took occasion to pronounce wholly without foundation the report that the 1st District of Indiana would instruct its delegation for Mr. Roosevelt. Ex-Senator Beveridge is represented to be seeking some delegates for himself, but his efforts in that direction are regarded as farcical.

Taft's Speeches Arouse Whole Country.

The whole country has been aroused by the President's forceful speeches delivered at Columbus, Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. That the Taft forces are at work is clearly indicated by the action of Republican state, county and city committees in every section of the country. St. Louis sent in an optimistic report last evening. To-day the Vice-President, Senator McCumber, ex-Senator Hemenway and a long list of others brought good news to the President, who expressed himself as deeply gratified with the endorsements of prominent Republicans and Republican committees all over the country.

"The situation for the nomination of the President has improved wonderfully in the last four weeks," said Vice-President Sherman. "During three weeks of that time it was under the surface, in the last week the improvement, which has been especially gratifying, has been above the surface. I have never had a doubt as to the renomination of President Taft, and if I had possessed such a doubt it would have disappeared in the last week under the great improvement that has been shown."

"How about November?" some one asked.

"The Republican party wins its victories in November and not in February," replied Mr. Sherman, with a vigorous wave of his hand. "History will repeat itself this year."

"The people must admit that President Taft has accomplished things," said Senator McCumber, of North Dakota, "and that he has done so with courage and absolute fairness. When the people begin to understand this, as they are now doing, there will remain little doubt as to what they will do as to giving him a renomination and re-election. What President in all the history of this country has ever done as much in less than three years as Mr. Taft? I think the record is remarkable."

Indiana Sure, Says Hemenway.

Ex-Senator Hemenway, of Indiana, branded the stories that his state would send an uncommitted delegation to the national convention as false. "The 1st Congress District is my own district," he said. "I was present at the convention. I adopted stronger Taft resolutions than did any other district in the state. Here are the resolutions, which show that somebody is going off half-cocked. The resolutions, too, were adopted unanimously. It is not good business to attempt to deceive the country this way. The truth wants to be known, and when it is known it will show that Indiana will send to Chicago a solid Taft delegation, instructed to work for and support him. Only one county in sixty-five showed any Roosevelt sentiment."

"If you have any worries about Connecticut, dismiss them," was the message sent to President Taft to-day by Mr. Clark, editor of "The Hartford Courant."

"Taft is sure to have the delegation from Ohio," declared General J. Warren Keifer. "All that was needed was the stirring the Republicans have had by the speeches of the President. Look out for a Taft wave in that state and all through the country. It is due now, and I can see it coming."

Heavy guns in the Republican campaign will be fired on the night of February 12—Lincoln's Birthday. President Taft will speak in New York, Attorney

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LIEUTENANT General Sir Baden-Powell, K. C. B., K. C. V. O., tells his own story of the Boy Scout movement, of which he is the recognized leader throughout the world, in to-morrow's SUNDAY TRIBUNE.

SENATOR GRADY DYING

Condition So Serious That End Is Expected Soon.

Senator Thomas F. Grady's condition was so precarious last night that it was said he might not live through the night. For the last two months the Senator has been ill. A week ago he was taken to a private sanatorium, but yesterday afternoon he was taken back to his home, No. 151 East 30th street.

With the Senator at his bedside were his spiritual adviser, Father Donahue, pastor of St. Stephen's Church, 28th street, between Third and Lexington avenues; his sister, Miss Margaret Grady, and Dr. Edward J. Donlin, who has been attending him.

J. J. Joyce, secretary to Senator Grady, said early this morning that the Senator's condition was unchanged and that he was not expected to survive the morning. Father Donahue and Dr. Donlin left the Grady home shortly after midnight.

WILSON DIDN'T SEE HARVEY

They Sat Close Together at Dinner, but Didn't Speak.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Philadelphia, Feb. 2.—Colonel George Harvey and Governor Woodrow Wilson sat within twenty feet of each other to-night at the annual dinner of the Periodical Publishers, at the Bellevue-Stratford, which was attended by 650 members. Colonel Harvey and Governor Wilson did not exchange greetings. Colonel Harvey was asked if he would make an effort to speak to the Governor, or if he would bask in some third person made an effort to bring them together during the evening. He said:

"I have not talked with Governor Wilson to-night, and do not expect to. I haven't made any effort at rapprochement, and know of no such effort."

As to whether he would bask if some one endeavored to bring them together, Colonel Harvey said:

"One never knows what may happen in a lifetime. I did not of my own volition give out the correspondence that was printed. The letters were requested by 'The New York Evening Post' and I gave them to that paper without any understanding with Governor Wilson."

Colonel Harvey was warmly congratulated by many of those present at the banquet for the attitude he took in the controversy.

Governor Wilson was asked if he had talked with Colonel Harvey.

"Why, I haven't even seen him. I didn't know he was here," was the reply.

Colonel Harvey was scarcely twenty feet distant from the Governor as he spoke.

THE MAINE RAISED AT LAST
After Section, Half the Vessel's Length, Set Afloat.

HAVEN, Feb. 2.—The long task of raising the battleship Maine was crowned with success this afternoon, when the after section, which was not injured by the explosion and which comprises approximately half the total length of the vessel, was floated.

Barely sufficient water was admitted within the cofferdam to free the bulk from the mud in which it was deeply imbedded, but to-night it floats almost on an even keel, though somewhat down at the stern and much above its normal line of flotation in consequence of the removal of the heavy weights on deck, especially the after turret and its guns. The hull, into which bulkhead has been fitted, proved watertight.

Major Harley B. Ferguson, chief engineer in charge of the work, intends to cease admitting water within the cofferdam until the portions of the shattered forward section of the battleship are removed, which will be a matter of a few days. After this it will be a simple matter to admit sufficient water to raise the bulk to the harbor level. Then a section of the cofferdam will be removed and the bulk floated out into the bay.

Three bodies were found this evening during an exploration of the extreme bow section of the Maine.

TENANTS FREED FROM YOKE

Court Decides They May Move if Heat Is Not Furnished.

A decision that many householders have been waiting for, particularly those who suffer from insufficient steam heating, was handed down yesterday by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. And it was just such a decision that the freezing tenant has been praying for. The court said that a tenant may legally refuse to pay his rent on a lease when a landlord is miserly with his steam heat, which in itself ought to send up the temperature several degrees in many apartments.

Dwight McDonald rented an apartment at No. 596 Riverside Drive, and failing to get any result from repeated requests and demands for steam, he moved out of the apartment and refused to pay \$700 rent on the remainder of his lease at the rate of \$100 a month. The landlord, Milton Berlinger, sued McDonald and recovered a judgment in the Supreme Court, but the plaintiff appealed. The Appellate Division was unanimous in reversing the verdict of the lower court. Justice McLaughlin wrote the opinion, in which he said:

"The landlord made it impossible for heat to be furnished except by means under his control, and if he failed to furnish it the tenant might vacate and thereafter resist the collection of the rent stipulated to be paid."

ANGOSTURA BITTERS lends delicious flavor to grapefruit and jellies.—Adv.

DROPS 272 FEET FROM
LIBERTY STATUE TORCH

Frederick Law, Steeplejack, Descends in Parachute, in Teeth of Gale, as an Experiment.

ARMY OFFICER ON WATCH

Falls 100 Feet Before Canvas Opens—Lands on His Back, but Is Not Injured After Flight Through Air.

Three men climbed up the great bronze arm of the Statue of Liberty yesterday, and on reaching the torch held in the hand of Liberty Enlightening the World one of them jumped over the side into space, falling nearly three hundred feet. The jumper was Frederick Law, a steeplejack, who has assumed the more dignified title of "aerial contractor." Law paints flagpoles and rigs tackles at dizzy heights—in short, does any old job in lofty and dangerous places where the nerve of the average man would fail.

Persons who would add to their fame by having their initials inscribed upon the golden balls of the flagpoles of such structures as the Singer, Metropolitan, Flatiron and Whitehall buildings should employ Mr. Law. He will do the trick and never turn a hair. Therefore, it was not surprising yesterday when he went up to the torch in the right hand of Miss Liberty and jumped boldly into the teeth of a fairly stiff blow from the south-southwest.

Just as Law was about to make his jump Sergeant O. P. Engstrom, U. S. A., was ordered to go to Bedlow's Island and escort to the torch two men who had permission from the War Department to "make a little experiment." The soldier led the way up the winding, winding, winding stairs. Behind him followed Law and his assistant, dragging aloft a canvas parachute about fifteen feet in diameter.

Once at the top Law wanted a platform on which he might lay carefully his canvas gear before making his leap. The platform had been overlooked, but being a man of resource the "aerial contractor" observed a wooden door at the entrance to the torch and suggested that it be lifted from its hinges. Presently it was in place on the outer rail that surrounds the huge metallic hand of Miss Liberty, and on it was spread the flimsy canvas envelope.

Sergeant Engstrom, who has faced two or three bullets in battle, looked over the side and then glanced at Law. Of course, it was no business of his if a man wanted to jump three hundred feet. He had his orders to let him do it, so he made no suggestion to the jumper. It required more courage to jump than to face bullets, so the soldier thought, but he was game enough to help Law make his leap of faith.

Quickly the aerial contractor adjusted ropes around his torso and announced that he was ready.

"Ready?" asked the assistant.

"Yes, I guess so," replied Law. "No, no, not yet. Give me a few puffs on that cigarette of yours."

The helper tore off the moist end of the smokelet and handed it to Law. He took three long puffs, and before the smoke had melted into the air was plunging downward. To the two men remaining in the torch it seemed for a moment as if the parachute never would open. But the breeze finally caught it, and blowing it out quickly carried Law off to the northeast.

Law struck the ice-crustated soil of the parapet. He landed on his back and rolled over, with his left leg doubled up under his body. On top of him was the parachute. For several seconds the jumper remained still, and it was feared he had been killed, but he got up and folding his aerial tent stole away to the city.

Law dropped about 272 feet. Had he fallen into the water his drop would have been 312 feet from the torch, the parapet being 40 feet above the surface of the bay.

The ferryboat Osprey steamed about the statue ready to pick up Law if he fell into the water. Those on board declared that he dropped at least one hundred feet before his parachute opened. Few persons saw the descension, as Law's experiment with his safety appliance for steeplejack work had not been advertised.

It is said that he applied to the owners of the Metropolitan Life Building for permission to drop from the tower of that structure, but the owners being a life insurance company and not inclined to encourage suicide, the request was denied.

MRS. ROBERT J. COLLIER ILL

Attacked with Indigestion—Party Abandons Voyage to Colon.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
New Orleans, Feb. 2.—Mrs. Robert J. Collier was stricken with a severe attack of indigestion and heart trouble to-night at the St. Charles Hotel, and the ocean voyage planned by the Collier party has been abandoned.

It was said at the hotel that her condition is not serious, and that it is thought the patient will be able to travel tomorrow, when she will be taken in the Collier private car to Miami, Fla.

Mr. Collier, with his mother, Mrs. P. F. Collier, and party, had planned to sail to-morrow for Colon, where Mr. Collier was to make aeroplane experiments.

DANCE HALL PROPOSALS

Cincinnati's Mayor Wants Working Girls to Have Chance to Marry.

Cincinnati, Feb. 2.—The proposed municipal dance halls will also be matrimonial bureaus if conducted on the lines set forth to-day by Mayor Hunt. "I want the supervision so strict that any girl may feel secure in attending them," said the Mayor. "The average girl who works has too little chance to meet available men. She should be able to pick a husband from the men she will meet at the municipal dance halls."

PINEHURST TOUR, \$35.

Pennsylvania Railroad, February 3. Pullman accommodations and meals going. Three days' board at Hotel Carolina. Ticket good returning until February 25. See Ticket Agents or telephone Madison 7900.—Adv.

JUMPED FROM LIBERTY'S TORCH

Striking photograph showing Frederick Law, who jumped from the top of Liberty Statue yesterday, hanging from his parachute as it descended. Law is in an almost horizontal position. The arrow indicates where he started on his sensational jump.



(Photograph Copyright by Powers Engraving Company.)



FREDERICK LAW.
Who made the daring jump.
(Photo by American Press Association.)

DIX NEAR BREAKDOWN

Physician Sends Him to Lake George for Few Days' Rest.

ALBANY, Feb. 2.—Governor Dix has been advised by his physician to give up all further social and public affairs for the present. Unable to bear the burden of duties thrust on him, the Governor has been on the verge of a breakdown for two or three weeks. Much against his will he has cancelled further social engagements for a time, and will spend a few days at Lake George, away from the cares of his office. He had planned to go to the Adirondacks.

The following statement by Dr. Spencer L. Dawes, the Governor's physician, was given out to-night at the executive chamber:

"I have advised Governor Dix that it is absolutely imperative that he should forego, for the present, all further social and public functions. The stress and strain on the executive are so great that the additional burden which he has thus far carried is more than even his splendid physique should be asked to stand."

In spite of his condition the Governor and Mrs. Dix gave a dinner at the Executive Mansion to-night for the judges of the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court and a few friends.

BIG MEXICAN OIL DEAL

Lord Cowdray Concern Sells Out for \$20,000,000.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Tampico, Mex., Feb. 2.—Pearson & Co., Ltd., the large oil producing and refining concern of which Lord Cowdray is the head, has just disposed of its oil interest in Mexico, including five hundred thousand acres of land, owned and leased, a refinery at Minatitlan and several large producing wells, to the Mexican Eagle Oil Company for \$20,000,000. The purchasing company was organized a few years ago as a subsidiary of the Pearson company.

CHINAMAN RUNS FOR OFFICE

Gets Silk Hat and Sallies Forth for Votes in Colorado Town.

Georgetown, Col., Feb. 2.—Leo Gow, a Chinaman, has announced his candidacy for Councilman here, filed the proper papers to secure a place on the ballot, and started his campaign with an American campaign manager. The first step of Gow and his manager was to purchase silk hats to complete their stylish attire, after which they started a house-to-house canvass for votes. Gow is said to be the first foreign-born Chinaman to run for office in America.

GOVERNOR REFUSES
TO PARDON BRANDT

Application of Former Valet of Mortimer L. Schiff for Commutation of Sentence Denied.

ORDERS ALL PAPERS SEALED

In Spite of This, the Governor Announces That There Is No Mystery in Case—Schiff Statement Not Considered.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]
Albany, Feb. 2.—Lawrence de Foulke Brandt will have to serve out the remaining twenty-five years of the thirty-year sentence imposed on him by Judge Rosalsky, after he pleaded guilty to robbing and assaulting Mortimer L. Schiff, by whom he had been employed as a valet. Governor Dix to-night denied Brandt's application for a commutation of sentence. In a statement which he gave out telling of his decision the Governor announced that there was no mystery in the case, but at the same time it was learned through his legal adviser, Seymour Van Santvoord, that he had ordered sealed all the papers filed with him.

The Governor himself did not come out to meet the newspaper men, who were waiting for the decision in the executive chamber, but sent Mr. Van Santvoord to answer any queries. The legal adviser said that the statement submitted by Mr. Schiff through his attorney, Howard S. Gans, had not been considered or even accepted.

"The only papers which the Governor took into consideration and from which he gathered all the facts upon which he based his decision," said Mr. Van Santvoord, "were the petition of the convict, supplementary letters from him, which were sent to the executive chamber right up to a few days ago; the report of District Attorney Whitman, a statement from Judge Rosalsky and the records from Dannemora prison, showing the health and conduct of the prisoner."

Brandt had the fullest opportunity to present any facts he saw fit, Mr. Van Santvoord said.

Case Considered All Day.

The Governor and his legal adviser were in consultation over this case all day. When the latter came out of the chief executive's inner room to announce the decision no amount of querying could induce him to indicate in any way what advice or facts District Attorney Whitman or Judge Rosalsky gave in their reports.

"District Attorney Whitman, it is understood, has said that the sentence of Brandt was too severe, and that had the case gone to a trial a much lighter sentence would have been imposed. Wasn't that taken into consideration?" Mr. Van Santvoord was asked.

"I don't affirm or deny it. If the District Attorney chooses to say anything about that he can," was the reply.

"We understand that a police sergeant who reported Brandt's past record had told of the large number of places he had been dismissed from. This report is said to have been proved false, and an investigation is being made into the conduct of the police sergeant. Was that fact brought to the attention of the Governor?"

"That had nothing to do with this case," was the reply.

"Well, if it had been considered, would it have influenced him?" was asked.

Can't Read Governor's Mind.

"You will have to ask the Governor that question. I have no way of reading his mind," said Mr. Van Santvoord.

It was pointed out to the legal adviser that it might be natural for the public to suppose that some influence had been brought to bear to keep Brandt in prison in view of the fact that Alton B. Parker and Paul D. Cravath had been engaged to argue against the granting of the commutation.

"I want to say right here," shouted Mr. Van Santvoord, rising from the chair, at the same time pounding the table and gesticulating angrily, "that no influence has been brought to bear in this case and no one has seen me except Mr. Gans. He came here on Monday and I refused to accept any statements from him. Governor Dix has decided this case on the papers that have been submitted to him and nothing else, as he says over his signature."

It was pointed out that the decision of the Governor is absolute and unreviewable. Governor Dix's statement followed: "The application for a commutation of the sentence of Lawrence De Foulke Brandt is denied. There seems to have been an attempt to inject mystery into this case, but there is no mystery. The prisoner made an application for clemency, and he was afforded every opportunity to present his plea in full. I thereupon asked for a report from the District Attorney and the full judgment, which have been filed. I have received no other papers. There have been no arguments, orally or by brief. No written or oral statement whatsoever from the complainant in the original case or any attorney on his behalf has been received. I have decided absolutely and entirely on the record."

Lawrence De Foulke Brandt was sentenced to thirty years in jail by Judge Otto Rosalsky, in General Sessions, on April 1, 1907, after he had pleaded guilty to burglary in the first degree. The crime which he confessed was that of entering the home of Mortimer L. Schiff a month after his discharge as Mr. Schiff's valet, hitting Mr. Schiff over the head with a club and taking jewelry valued at \$200.

Some four weeks ago Brandt wrote to Governor Dix from Dannemora, where he had been incarcerated, begging that he be pardoned, since he had pleaded guilty, as innocent man, to shield the reputation of a woman in the Schiff household, and with certainty within a year. Governor Dix asked District Attorney Whitman to investigate the case and report to him, and he asked Judge Rosalsky also to submit a report to the court proceedings.

District Attorney Whitman, after conferences with Brandt, Carl Fischer-Hansen, the ex-convict, who had been Brandt's lawyer, and with Howard S. Gans, who had represented Mr. Schiff, recommended the

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